

Message Text

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TO USDOC WASHDC

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8518

AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS BEIRUT 6962

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP ENRG ETRN XF KU

SUBJECT: OAPEC TANKER COMPANY TO SPEND \$2 BILLION

REF: BEIRUT A-119 OF JUNE 18

1. REFAIR (EN ROUTE) CARRIES MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY) REPORT THAT KUWAIT-BASED ARAB MARITIME PETROLEUM TRANSPORT COMPANY (AMPTC), JOINT VENTURE OF EIGHT MEMBERS OF ORGANIZATION OF ARAB PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OAPEC), PLANS TO SPEND \$2 BILLION FOR NEW AND/OR USED OIL AND GAS TANKERS NEXT 3-4 YEARS. PROGRAM ENVISIONS CRUDE CARRIERS IN 80-150,000 TONS RANGE, PRODUCT CARRIERS 40-70,000 TON RANGE, UNDETERMINED NUMBER LPG CARRIERS, LATTER FOR ORDER OR PURCHASE BEGINNING 1975. REPORT SAYS COMPANY STUDYING SIZE REQUIREMENTS, AND INDICATES AMPTC WILL ISSUE TENDERS.

2. REPORT BASED ON INTERVIEW WITH AMPTC MANAGING DIRECTOR ABD AL-RAHMAN SULTAN.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY KUWAIT MAY WISH VERIFY REPORT WITH AMPTC. KUWAIT 731 OF MARCH 8, 1973, CITING STATE 23492, INDICATED US SHIPBUILDERS NOT COMPETITIVE BUT IF REPORT ACCURATE AMPTC SEEKING LARGE NUMBER OF TANKERS,SOME WITH NEW AND VERY ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY. THIS AND SCALE INVOLVED MAKE REPORT WORTH INVESTIGATING. GODLEY

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Message Attributes

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